

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for kindly indicating that claims 1-9, 11-24, 38, 48-52, 57, 58, 61-64 and 70 are allowable.

Claims 25-37, 39-47, 53-56 65, and 67-69 have been canceled without prejudice to pursuing them in a continuing application.

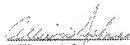
Claims 1-9, 11-58, 61-65 and 67-70 were pending in the application and were subject to a restriction requirement. The restriction requirement grouped the claims as follows: Group I, claims 1-9, 11-24, 38, 48-52, 57-58, 61-64 and 70, and Group II, claims 25-37, 39-47, 53-56, 65 and 67-69. Applicants confirm the constructive election to prosecute the claims of Group I, i.e., claims 1-9, 11-24, 38, 48-52, 57-58, 61-64 and 70, with traverse.

The Examiner has indicated that the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance in accordance therewith and for the application be passed to issue. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned should a teleconference interview facilitate prosecution of this application.

Please charge any additional fees owing or credit any over payments made to Deposit Account No. 501,171.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 19, 2006


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